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Social development

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Katharina **Konzett-Stoffl** (Austria)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled:

"Social development:

"(a) Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

"(b) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family;

"(c) Literacy for life: shaping future agendas"

and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee held a general discussion on the item at its 1st to 4th meetings, on 2 and 3 October 2018, and considered proposals and took action on the item at its 44th, 50th and 51st meetings, on 6 and 16 November. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes (A/73/61-E/2018/4);

[1] A/C.3/73/SR.1, A/C.3/73/SR.2, A/C.3/73/SR.3, A/C.3/73/SR.4, A/C.3/73/SR.44, A/C.3/73/SR.50 and A/C.3/73/SR.51.

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(b) Report of the Secretary-General on inclusive development for persons with disabilities (A/73/211/Rev.1);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing (A/73/213);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (A/73/214);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the plan of action to integrate volunteering into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/73/254);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Literacy for life: shaping future agendas and education for democracy" (A/73/292);

(g) Note by the Secretariat on the United Nations 2018 flagship report on disability and development: realization of the Sustainable Development Goals by, for and with persons with disabilities (A/73/220).

4. At the 1st meeting, on 2 October, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, the Director of the Division for Inclusive Social Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the representative of the United Nations Volunteers and the representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization made introductory statements.

5. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons made an introductory statement and responded to questions posed and comments made by the representatives of Qatar, Australia, Brazil, the European Union, Slovenia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Chile, Namibia, Argentina, Colombia and South Africa.

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.13

6. At its 44th meeting, on 6 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Volunteering for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (A/C.3/73/L.13), submitted by Brazil, Chile, Japan and the Russian Federation. Subsequently, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, the Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Iraq, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the

United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

7. At the same meeting, the representative of Brazil, also on behalf of Japan, made a statement.

8. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Japan, also on behalf of Brazil, made a statement.

9. Also at the 44th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.13 (see para. 31, draft resolution I).

10. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the United States made a statement.

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.17/Rev.1

11. At its 50th meeting, on 16 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly" (A/C.3/73/L.17/Rev.1), which replaced draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.17 and was submitted by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China). Subsequently, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

12. At the same meeting, the representative of Egypt (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) made a statement.

13. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.17/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 181 to 2 (see para. 31, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South

Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining:

None.

14. Before the vote, the representative of Egypt made a statement, to which the Chair responded, and the representative of the United States made a statement in explanation of vote. After the vote, the representative of Hungary made a statement.

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.6/Rev.1

15. At its 51st meeting, on 16 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Inclusive development for and with persons with disabilities" (A/C.3/73/L.6/Rev.1), which replaced draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.6 and was submitted by Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Myanmar, Namibia, Paraguay, the Philippines, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the United Arab Emirates, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Subsequently, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

16. At the same meeting, the representative of the Philippines made a statement.

17. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.6/Rev.1 (see para. 31, draft resolution III).

18. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the United States made a statement.

D. Draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.18/Rev.1

19. At its 51st meeting, on 16 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing" (A/C.3/73/L.18/Rev.1), which replaced draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.18 and was submitted by Canada, Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations

that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Mexico, Monaco and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Subsequently, Austria, Croatia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, Norway, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

20. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

21. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, made a statement.

22. Also at its 51st meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.18/Rev.1 (see para. 31, draft resolution IV).

23. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the United States made a statement.

E. Draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.19/Rev.1

24. At its 51st meeting, on 16 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond" (A/C.3/73/L.19/Rev.1), which replaced draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.19 and was submitted by Belarus, Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan. Subsequently, Turkey joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

25. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico made a statement.

26. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.19/Rev.1 (see para. 31, draft resolution V).

27. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Austria made a statement, on behalf also of the European Union and Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

F. Draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.14

28. At its 44th meeting, on 6 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Literacy for life: shaping future agendas" (A/C.3/73/L.14), submitted by Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Ecuador, Hungary, Japan, Mongolia and Poland. Subsequently, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Colombia, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United

States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

29. At the same meeting, the representative of Mongolia made a statement and orally revised the fifth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution.[2]

30. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.14, as orally revised (see para. 31, draft resolution VI).

[2] See A/C.3/73/SR.44.

III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

31. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Volunteering for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/129 of 17 December 2015, entitled "Integrating volunteering into peace and development: the plan of action for the next decade and beyond",

Welcoming the integration of volunteerism into all relevant issues considered at the United Nations, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1] in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, as well as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[2] in which it is acknowledged that volunteers and other stakeholders will be important to mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, complement the efforts of Governments and support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular in developing countries,

Recognizing that volunteerism can be a powerful and cross-cutting means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, that it can help to expand and mobilize constituencies and engage people in the national planning and implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and that volunteer groups can help to localize the Agenda by providing new areas of interaction between Governments and people for concrete and scalable actions,

Acknowledging that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development creates unprecedented global and national urgency to accelerate progress in the recognition, promotion, facilitation, networking and integration of volunteer action by and between Governments, communities, civil society, the private sector, academia, the media and international actors, including the United Nations system,

Acknowledging also the existing contribution of the organizations of the United Nations system in support of volunteering, especially the work of the United Nations Volunteers programme around the world, acknowledging further the efforts of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to promote volunteerism throughout its global network, noting the work of other volunteer-involving organizations at the local, national, regional and global levels, and acknowledging the important role of civil society in facilitating volunteering,

Welcoming the publication by the United Nations Volunteers programme of the report entitled *2018 State of the World's Volunteerism Report: The Thread that Binds — Volunteerism and Community Resilience*, which presents new evidence on the role of volunteerism, especially through equitable and inclusive compacts between local volunteers and other communities, actors and organizations in strengthening community resilience, voice and inclusion in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

[1] Resolution 70/1.

[2] Resolution 69/313, annex.

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the plan of action to integrate volunteering into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[3]

2. *Recognizes* the importance of integrating volunteerism, as appropriate, into the planning for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1] and encourages the United Nations system, civil society and the private sector, in partnership with Member States, to support such efforts and promote a conducive environment for volunteerism and volunteers to enhance the sustainability of development results;

3. *Encourages* Governments, in partnership with United Nations entities, volunteer-involving organizations, the private sector, civil society, including academia, and other stakeholders, as appropriate, to integrate volunteerism into national development strategies, plans and policies, United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks or equivalent planning frameworks;

4. *Encourages* the meaningful participation and integration of all people, including youth, older persons, women, migrants, refugees, persons with disabilities, minorities and other marginalized groups, into volunteer-involving programmes and projects, with the provision of the appropriate means to leverage the full potential of volunteerism;

5. *Commends* the Member States that highlighted the contributions of volunteers to the Sustainable Development Goals in their voluntary national reviews for the high-level political forum on sustainable development held in 2016, 2017 and 2018, and encourages all Member States to increasingly cooperate with volunteer-involving and civil society organizations, to include information on the scale, contribution and impact of volunteerism in future voluntary national reviews and engage volunteers for the monitoring of progress towards achieving the Goals at the national and subnational levels and as part of wider citizen engagement;

6. *Encourages* all Member States to invest in measuring the scale and contribution of people's voluntary efforts, in line with the nineteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians standard on volunteer work and the International Labour Organization Manual on the Measurement of Volunteer Work, and to collect and utilize high-quality data disaggregated by sex, age and disability to support and integrate volunteerism into national strategies and to measure its impact on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

7. *Commends* all volunteers globally — formal, informal, community, national, international, online, youth and older volunteers — for their contributions to the delivery of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

8. *Requests* Member States and the United Nations system to work together with volunteer-involving organizations, including from civil society, to support efforts to enhance the protection, security and well-being of volunteers, calls upon States to create and maintain, in law and in practice, a safe and enabling environment for volunteers, and encourages the adoption of good practices in the promotion, facilitation and, where applicable, management of volunteerism;

9. *Reaffirms* the institutional arrangements to implement the plan of action to integrate volunteering into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which are consistent with and complement existing global review mechanisms on the Sustainable Development Goals and build upon and are complemented by independent forums and processes that maximize the participation, voice and contributions of volunteers, and, in particular:

[3] A/73/254.

(a) Encourages Member States to continue to work with national and local partners to prepare an analysis of volunteering at the national level before the end of 2018;

(b) Welcomes that national-level analysis will be inputs for regional consultations on volunteering in 2019, and requests that these regional consultations be held under the auspices of the regional commissions of the United Nations in the context of the regional forums on sustainable development, providing an opportunity for Member States and partners to discuss evidence and approaches, identify opportunities for addressing knowledge gaps and ensure, among other things, that national and regional inputs into the high-level political forum on sustainable development take account of volunteer contributions to the 2030 Agenda;

(c) Encourages civil society, academia and the private sector, and especially volunteer-involving organizations, to use all existing forums and processes, in accordance with the rules and mandates of such forums and processes, to increase consultations on trends, evidence and approaches on volunteer contributions to the 2030 Agenda and the plan of action;

(d) Requests the United Nations Volunteers programme, and invites the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, to jointly organize the global technical meeting to be held in 2020 on the theme "Reimagining volunteerism for the 2030 Agenda", building upon the foundations provided by the processes highlighted above, to further strengthen the engagement and contributions of volunteers with regard to the 2030 Agenda, and requests that this meeting be held as a special event on the margins of the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2020;

10. *Recognizes* the United Nations Volunteers programme as the appropriate United Nations entity to support the implementation of the plan of action, and expects the programme to coordinate the work to consolidate and disseminate good practices and lessons learned, promote successful volunteer actions and ensure that the differentiated impact of volunteers on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is documented as part of regular national policy, planning and implementation practices;

11. *Also recognizes* the role of information and communications technologies in expanding innovative forms of volunteering, and encourages Governments, the private sector, civil society and other stakeholders to support online volunteering, including United Nations online volunteering that provides inclusive technology-enabled global platforms;

12. *Further recognizes* the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers as the resource enabling the United Nations Volunteers programme to support the implementation of the plan of action, as well as develop initiatives that embed the values of volunteerism in the work of Governments and the United Nations system, and encourages Member States in a position to do so to enhance their contributions to the Fund, thereby ensuring continuing activities;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including the plan of action to integrate volunteering into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, under the item entitled "Social development".

Draft resolution II
Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming all previous resolutions on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, including resolution 72/141 of 19 December 2017,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[1] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session,[2] as well as a continued global dialogue on social development issues, constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Welcoming the progress made towards the full implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action through concerted action at the national, regional and global levels, and expressing its deep concern that, more than 20 years after the convening of the World Summit for Social Development, progress has been slow and uneven, and major gaps remain,

Welcoming also the adoption, in its entirety, of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[3] in which it is recognized that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development,

Reaffirming the need to achieve sustainable development by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities within and among countries, raising basic standards of living and fostering equitable and inclusive social development and sustainable management of natural resources,

Recognizing that the three core themes of social development, namely, poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration, are interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and that an enabling environment therefore needs to be created so that all three objectives can be pursued simultaneously,

Emphasizing the need to enhance the role of the Commission for Social Development in the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, and welcoming the decision of the Economic and Social Council that the Commission, given its mandates and experience in promoting people-centred inclusive development, will report on social aspects related to the agreed main theme of the

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[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[3] Resolution 70/1.

Council in order to contribute to its work,[4] including by offering inputs regarding the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in a holistic and inclusive manner,

Welcoming the decision of the Economic and Social Council that the Commission for Social Development will consider one priority theme at each session on the basis of the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and its linkages to the social dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, proposing an action-oriented resolution with recommendations to the Council in order to contribute to its work, and that the priority theme for the 2019 session, which shall allow the Commission to contribute to the work of the Council, will be "Addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies",

Recalling the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the 2018 session of the Economic and Social Council on the annual theme "From global to local: supporting sustainable and resilient societies in urban and rural communities" and the ministerial declaration of the 2018 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, on the theme "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies",

Reaffirming that the Declaration on the Right to Development[5] also informs the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, along with other relevant instruments, such as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[6] Agenda 2063 adopted by the African Union and the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization,[7] and reaffirming also the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Affirming its strong support for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into the reduction of inequalities, eradication of poverty and commitment to strategies and policies that aim to promote full, freely chosen and productive employment and decent work for all and that these strategies and policies should constitute fundamental components of relevant national and international policies and national development strategies, including inequality and poverty reduction strategies, and reaffirming that employment creation and decent work for all should be incorporated into macroeconomic policies, taking fully into account the impact and social dimension of globalization, the benefits and costs of which are often unevenly shared and distributed, and noting in this regard that the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, with its four strategic objectives, has an important role to play in achieving the objective of social protection and elimination of inequalities, as reaffirmed in the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization,

Recognizing that although income inequality between countries remains at a high level, it has been declining, while trends in income inequality within countries present a mixed picture, with many countries experiencing a significant rise in recent decades and others having successfully reduced both income and non-income inequalities, although their levels remain high, and emphasizing that addressing inequality in all its dimensions is essential to eradicating poverty, advancing social development and achieving sustainable development,

[4] Economic and Social Council resolution 2016/6, para. 3.
[5] Resolution 41/128, annex.
[6] Resolution 69/313, annex.
[7] A/63/538-E/2009/4, annex.

Recognizing also that social inclusion is a means for achieving social integration and is crucial for fostering stable, safe, harmonious, peaceful and just societies and for improving social cohesion so as to create an environment for development and progress,

Recognizing further that the remaining effects of the world financial and economic crisis have the potential to undermine progress towards achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and threaten debt sustainability in many countries, especially developing countries,

Deeply concerned that extreme poverty and the feminization of poverty persist in all countries of the world, regardless of their economic, social and cultural situation, and that the extent and manifestations thereof, such as hunger and malnutrition, vulnerability to trafficking in persons, forced and child labour, disease, lack of adequate shelter and illiteracy, are heightened in developing countries and particularly severe in least developed countries, while acknowledging the significant progress made in several parts of the world in combating extreme poverty,

Stressing the importance of removing obstacles to the realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, in particular of peoples living under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, which adversely affect their social and economic development, including their exclusion from labour markets,

Stressing also the importance of establishing a just and lasting peace all over the world in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, supporting all efforts to uphold the sovereign equality of all States and respect their territorial integrity and political independence, and refraining in international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Recognizing that terrorism, trafficking in arms, organized crime, trafficking in persons, money-laundering, ethnic and religious conflict, civil war, politically motivated killing and genocide pose increasing challenges to States and societies in the attainment of conditions conducive to social development, including reduction of inequalities, and that they further present urgent and compelling reasons for action by Governments individually and, as appropriate, jointly to foster social cohesion while recognizing, protecting and valuing diversity,

Recognizing also all recent efforts to promote meaningful and inclusive participation of youth in building their societies, including the convening of the first World Youth Forum in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 4 to 10 November 2017 as a platform for discussion among youth from all over the world,

Noting with concern that, according to the report of the International Labour Organization entitled "Global Employment Trends for Youth 2017", although there has been a modest economic recovery, youth unemployment remains high and employment quality remains a concern, and young people are three times as likely as adults to be unemployed, which constitutes a serious global problem,

Recognizing that, since the convening of the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995, advances have been made in addressing and promoting social integration, including through the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[8] the World Programme of Action for

[8] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Youth,[9] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[10] the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[11] and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[12]

Welcoming the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015–2024), which urges Member States to promote the social development of people of African descent, particularly women and girls, by eradicating any form of discrimination, ensuring access to quality education and eliminating challenges and specific risks with regard to health,

Reaffirming the commitment to promoting the rights of indigenous peoples in the areas of education, employment, housing, sanitation, health and social protection and social security, and noting the attention paid to those areas in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[13]

2. *Welcomes* the reaffirmation by Governments of their will and commitment to continue implementing the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[1] in particular to promote equality and social justice, eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and decent work for all and foster social integration to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all, and recognizes that the implementation of the Copenhagen commitments and the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals are mutually reinforcing;

3. *Reaffirms* its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[3] and its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced, holistic and integrated manner;

4. *Recognizes* that poverty is a multidimensional phenomenon, and invites Member States to develop comprehensive, integrated and coherent poverty eradication strategies that effectively address the structural causes of poverty and inequality with an emphasis on job-rich growth; address and meet the basic human needs of people living in poverty; ensure their access to quality education, nutrition, health, water, sanitation, housing and other public social services, access to employment and decent work for all, as well as access to productive resources, including credit, land, training, technology and knowledge; and ensure their participation in decision-making on social and economic development policies and programmes in this regard;

5. *Emphasizes* that the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit, the International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Monterrey Consensus,[14] the 2005 World Summit, the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, in its Doha Declaration on Financing

[9] Resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.

[10] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[11] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[12] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[13] A/73/214.

[14] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

for Development,[15] the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the 2013 special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, the third International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Addis Ababa Action Agenda,[6] and the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, have reinforced the priority and urgency of the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions within the United Nations development agenda;

6. *Recognizes* the complex character of the ongoing food insecurity situation, including food price volatility, as a combination of several major factors, both structural and conjunctural, which is also negatively affected by, inter alia, environmental degradation, drought and desertification, global climate change, natural disasters, the lack of the necessary technology and armed conflicts, and also recognizes that a strong commitment from national Governments and the international community as a whole is required to confront the major threats to food security and to ensure that policies in the area of agriculture do not distort trade and worsen food insecurity;

7. *Reaffirms* the importance of supporting the African Union's development framework, Agenda 2063, as well as its 10-year plan of action, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years, which is the African Union long-term strategy emphasizing industrialization, youth employment, improved natural resource governance and the reduction of inequalities, and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development[16] and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme;

8. *Stresses* that the benefits of economic growth should be inclusive and distributed more equitably and that, in order to close the gap of inequality and avoid any further deepening of inequality, comprehensive social policies and programmes, including appropriate social transfer and job creation programmes and social protection systems, are needed;

9. *Reaffirms* that social integration policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, education for all and health care, eliminate discrimination, increase the participation and integration of social groups, particularly young people, older persons and persons with disabilities noting the role of sports in this regard, and address the challenges posed to social development by globalization and market-driven reforms in order for all people in all countries to benefit from globalization;

10. *Stresses* that an enabling environment is a critical precondition for achieving equity and social development and that, while economic growth is essential, entrenched inequality and marginalization are an obstacle to the broad-based and sustained growth required for sustainable, inclusive and people-centred development, and recognizes the need to balance and ensure complementarity between measures to achieve growth and measures to achieve economic and social equity and inclusion in order for there to be an impact on overall poverty levels;

11. *Supports* the development of vertical and horizontal models of distribution of financial resources to decrease inequalities across subnational territories, within urban centres and between urban and rural areas, as well as to promote integrated and balanced territorial development, and reaffirms the importance of improving the

[15] Resolution 63/239, annex.
[16] A/57/304, annex.

transparency of data on spending and resource allocation as a tool for assessing progress towards equity and spatial integration;

12. *Acknowledges* that investment in human capital and social protection has been proven to be effective in reducing poverty and inequality, and invites Member States to mobilize innovative sources of financing, including through public-private partnerships, to secure adequate levels of social expenditure necessary for expanding coverage towards universal access to health, education, innovation, new technologies and basic social protection and to address the issues of illicit financial flows and corruption;

13. *Stresses* that international trade and stable financial systems can be effective tools to create favourable conditions for the development of all countries and that trade barriers and some trading practices continue to have negative effects on employment growth, particularly in developing countries, that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels and the need to promote respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development, the reduction of inequalities, the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition and for addressing the most pressing social needs of people living in poverty, and in this regard also stresses the importance of economic, social and cultural rights and the importance of the principles of non-discrimination, inclusivity and meaningful participation for the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development;

14. *Acknowledges* that inequalities persist within and among countries, posing significant challenges to social cohesion, reaffirms that the eradication of poverty, promotion of prosperity, gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the reduction of inequality within and among countries are fundamental to achieving sustainable development for all, and that this requires collective and transformative efforts to leave no one behind and put the furthest behind first, and adapt institutions and policies to take into account the multidimensional nature of inequality and poverty and the inherent interlinkages between different Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this regard:

Inequality in access to opportunities

(a) Calls upon Governments, the international community and other relevant actors to ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and actions in this regard;

(b) Encourages Governments and the international community to learn from the experiences and good practices that have successfully reduced inequalities and adopt an appropriate mix of policies, including macroeconomic, fiscal, wage, employment, labour market, financial inclusion and social protection policies, that have proven to be effective in promoting inclusive growth and progressively reducing inequality in opportunities and access to basic services, and ensure the synergies between those policies;

(c) Urges Member States to strengthen social policies, as appropriate, paying particular attention to the specific needs of disadvantaged and marginalized social groups, inter alia, women, children, youth, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS, older persons, indigenous peoples, refugees, internally displaced persons, migrants and other persons in vulnerable situations, as well as to address all forms of violence in its many manifestations, including domestic violence, and discrimination, including xenophobia, against them, to ensure that these groups are not left behind, and recognizes that violence increases the challenges faced by States

and societies in the achievement of poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration;

(d) Reaffirms the commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, as well as to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all development efforts, recognizing that they are critical for achieving sustainable development and for efforts to combat hunger and malnutrition, poverty and disease, to strengthening policies and programmes that improve, ensure and broaden the full participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life as equal partners and to improving the access of women to all resources needed for the full exercise of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms by removing persistent barriers and allocating adequate resources for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, including in the workplace, inter alia, by addressing wage inequality, ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work for all, reconciliation of work and private life for both men and women, as well as strengthening their economic independence;

(e) Recognizes that youth participation is important for development, and urges Member States and United Nations entities, in consultation with youth and youth-led and youth-focused organizations, to explore and promote new avenues for the full, effective, structured and sustainable participation of young people and youth-led organizations in relevant decision-making processes and monitoring, in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life, including in designing and implementing policies, programmes and initiatives, in particular, while implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

Inequality in access to basic services

(f) Reaffirms the right to education, and calls upon the international community to provide universal access to inclusive, equal and non-discriminatory quality education at all levels — early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary and distance education, including technical and vocational training — as well as to promote the completion of primary and secondary education so that all people may have access to lifelong learning opportunities that help them to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to exploit opportunities to participate fully in society and contribute to sustainable development;

(g) Recognizes that substantial and efficiently spent investments are needed to improve the quality of education and vocational training and in order to enable millions of people to acquire skills for decent work, and takes note with appreciation of the report of the International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity and the recommendations contained therein, as appropriate;

(h) Urges Member States to promote and respect women's and girls' right to education throughout the life cycle at all levels, especially for those who have been left furthest behind, and eliminate gender disparities in access to all areas of secondary and tertiary education, promote financial literacy and inclusion, digital literacy and entrepreneurship, ensure that women and girls have equal access to career development, training, scholarships and fellowships and adopt positive action to build women's and girls' leadership skills and influence, and adopt measures that promote, respect and guarantee the safety of women and girls in the school environment and that support women and girls with disabilities at all levels of education and training;

(i) Recognizes the responsibility of Governments to urgently and significantly scale up efforts to accelerate the transition towards universal access to affordable and quality health-care services, and calls upon Member States to accelerate progress towards achieving the goal of universal health coverage, which implies that all people have equal access, without discrimination of any kind, to

nationally determined sets of quality promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative basic health services needed and essential, safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines, while ensuring that the use of such services and medicines does not expose the users to financial hardship, with a specific emphasis on the poor, vulnerable and marginalized segments of the population;

Inequality in access to nutrition and food

(j) Reaffirms the right to food and acknowledges the importance of promoting sustainable farming and agriculture and, recognizing the important contribution that family farming and smallholder farming can play in providing food security, reducing inequality in access to food and nutrition, calls upon Governments to ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round;

(k) Encourages Governments to end all forms of malnutrition, including the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons;

(l) Invites Governments to double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment;

Inequality in access to social protection

(m) Urges Governments, with the cooperation of relevant entities, to establish nationally appropriate social protection that supports labour market participation and addresses and reduces inequality and social exclusion, and social protection systems and floors, including through streamlining fragmented social protection systems/programmes, ensuring that such programmes are gender-responsive and disability-sensitive, and progressively extend their coverage to all people throughout their life cycle, including for workers in the informal economy, invites the International Labour Organization, upon request, to support government efforts to strengthen social protection strategies and policies on extending social protection and social security coverage, urges Governments, while taking account of national circumstances, to focus on the needs of those living in, or vulnerable to, poverty and to give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems, including the implementation of social protection floors, which can provide a systemic base upon which to address poverty and vulnerability, and in this regard takes note of the International Labour Organization recommendation on social protection floors;

Inequality in access to employment and decent work

(n) Urges Governments to work closely with all relevant stakeholders to create an environment conducive to the creation of new job opportunities and develop human resources development strategies premised on national development objectives that ensure a strong link between education, health, training and employment, help to maintain a productive and competitive workforce and are responsive to the needs of the economy;

(o) Stresses the need to address challenges faced by those working in informal or vulnerable jobs, by investing in the creation of more decent work opportunities, including providing access to decent jobs in the formal sector in accordance with International Labour Organization recommendation No. 204 concerning the transition

from the informal to the formal economy, and enhancing the productive capacities of people, and strengthen labour institutions and employment and labour-market policies, taking into consideration the specific circumstances of each country and by promoting close partnerships with relevant stakeholders;

(p) Urges Member States to strengthen, as appropriate, the authority and capacity of national mechanisms for promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, at all levels, which should be placed at the highest possible level of government, with sufficient funding, and to mainstream a gender perspective across all relevant national and local institutions, including labour, economic and financial government agencies, in order to ensure that national planning, decision-making, policy formulation and implementation, budgeting processes and institutional structures contribute to women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work;

(q) Also urges Member States to address the high rates of youth unemployment, underemployment, vulnerable employment, informal employment and young people not in employment, education or training by developing and implementing targeted and integrated local and national youth employment policies for inclusive, sustainable and innovative job creation, improved employability, skills development and vocational training to facilitate the transition from school to work and to increase the prospects for integrating youth in the sustainable labour market, and through increased entrepreneurship, including the development of networks of young entrepreneurs at the local, national, regional and global levels that foster knowledge among young people about their rights and responsibilities in society, and encourages Member States to invest in education, support lifelong learning and provide social protection for all youth and to request donors, specialized United Nations entities and the private sector to continue to provide assistance to Member States, including technical and funding support, as appropriate;

(r) Recognizes that promoting full employment and decent work for all also requires investing in education, training and skills development for women and men, and girls and boys, strengthening social protection and health systems and applying international labour standards, and urges States and, as appropriate, the relevant entities of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, as well as civil society, the private sector, employer organizations, trade unions, the media and other relevant actors, to continue to develop and strengthen policies, strategies and programmes to enhance, in particular, the employability of women and youth and to ensure their access to full and productive employment and decent work for all, including by improving access to formal and non-formal education, skills development and vocational training, lifelong learning and retraining and long-distance education, inter alia, in information and communications technology and entrepreneurial skills, particularly in developing countries, including with a view to supporting the economic empowerment of women in the different stages of their lives;

Inequality in access to technologies

(s) Recognizes that substantial digital divides exist between countries and regions, and between developed and developing countries, particularly Africa and least developed countries, and urges policymakers and regulators to work together to provide people with affordable access to technologies, including information and communications technologies and digital skills, through effective private-public partnership at multiple levels in order to advance investment in infrastructure and training, facilitated by cross-sectoral collaboration;

Inequality in access to infrastructure

(t) Recognizes that important environmental and infrastructure inequalities persist, with people living in poverty overwhelmingly suffering from the effects of pollution, climate change and environmental degradation, calls upon the international community, including Member States, to continue their ambitious efforts to strive for more inclusive, equitable, balanced, stable and development-oriented sustainable socioeconomic approaches to overcoming poverty, and, in view of the negative impact of inequality, including gender inequality, on poverty, emphasizes the importance of structural transformation that leads to inclusive and sustainable industrialization for employment creation and poverty reduction, investing in sustainable agriculture and quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all, enhancing interconnectivity and achieving access to energy, and improving access to financial services, as well as promoting decent rural employment, improving access to quality education, promoting quality health care, including through the acceleration of the transition towards equitable access to universal health coverage, advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, expanding social protection coverage, climate change mitigation and adaptation and combating inequality and social exclusion;

(u) Looks forward to the convening of the third Global Infrastructure Forum in Bali, Indonesia, on 13 October 2018, and in this regard recalls, as outlined in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, that a greater range of voices should be heard, particularly from developing countries, to identify and address infrastructure and capacity gaps, in particular in, inter alia, African countries, and that it will highlight opportunities for investment and cooperation and work to ensure that investments are environmentally, socially and economically sustainable;

Urban-rural/spatial inequality

(v) Recognizes that steps should be taken to anticipate and offset the negative social and economic consequences of globalization, and also recognizes the need to prioritize a financial infrastructure that provides access to a variety of sustainable products and services for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurship cooperatives and other forms of social enterprises, as well as investing in and contributing to sustainable agricultural development, including by boosting smallholder productivity through measures attracting responsible private investment, improving the quality and quantity of rural extension services and the access to the necessary resources, assets, markets and cross-cutting agricultural technologies, and promoting the participation and entrepreneurship of women, including smallholder women farmers, as means to promote full and productive employment and decent work for all, as well as to pay special attention to the development of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly in rural areas, and securing their safe interaction with larger economies;

(w) Reaffirms the New Urban Agenda,[17] which envisages cities and human settlements that fulfil their social function, including the social and ecological function of land, with a view to progressively achieving the full realization of the right to adequate housing, as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, without discrimination, universal access to safe and affordable drinking water and sanitation, as well as equal access for all to public goods and quality services in

[17] Resolution 71/256, annex.

areas such as food security and nutrition, health, education, infrastructure, mobility and transportation, energy, air energy, air quality and livelihoods;

(x) Encourages Member States to pursue social and economic policies to support the creation of farm and off-farm jobs, as appropriate, especially labour-intensive and higher-productivity jobs in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and recognizes that redistributive land policies and improved access to formal credit markets through greater financial inclusion, as well as structural transformation policies that help to shift labour to high-productivity manufacturing and services sectors, may be considered by Member States within their national contexts and legislation;

Environmental inequality

(y) Recognizes that the negative effects of climate change and environmental disasters have differential impacts, with people in vulnerable situations, poor and rural communities and low-income countries being disproportionately exposed to floods, droughts and other natural disasters, and that they have a lower capacity and assets to recover from such external shocks and expresses concern that climate change may cause high and volatile food and commodity prices and hit them hardest;

(z) Acknowledges the important nexus between international migration and social development, and stresses the importance of effectively enforcing labour laws with regard to labour relations and working conditions of migrant workers, inter alia, those related to their remuneration and conditions of health, safety at work and the right to freedom of association;

Social development actors

15. *Reaffirms* that social development requires the active involvement of all actors in the development process, including civil society organizations, corporations, the public sector and small businesses, and that partnerships among all relevant actors within countries are increasingly becoming part of national and international cooperation for social development, also reaffirms that, within countries, partnerships among the Government, civil society and the private sector can contribute effectively to the achievement of social development goals, and acknowledges the role of public and private sectors as employers and enablers for the effective generation of new investments, full and productive employment and decent work for all, including through partnerships with the United Nations system, civil society and academia;

16. *Stresses* the importance of the policy space and leadership of national Governments for implementing policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, in particular in the areas of human rights, social expenditure and social protection programmes, and calls upon international financial institutions and donors to support developing countries in achieving their social development, in line with their national priorities and strategies, by, among other things, providing debt relief within the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

17. *Underlines* the responsibility of the private sector, at both the national and the international levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, regarding not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, gender and environmental implications of their activities, their obligations towards their workers and their contributions to achieving sustainable development, including social development, emphasizes that transnational corporations and other business enterprises have a responsibility to respect human rights, applicable laws and international principles and standards, to operate

transparently, in a socially and environmentally responsible manner, and to refrain from affecting the well-being of peoples, and also emphasizes the need to take further concrete actions on corporate responsibility and accountability, including through the participation of all relevant stakeholders, inter alia, for the prevention or prosecution of corruption, and to prevent human rights abuses;

18. *Stresses* the importance of stability in global financial systems and sound national economic policies to creating an enabling international environment to promote economic growth and social development and further stresses the importance of promoting corporate social responsibility and accountability, and encourages responsible business practices, such as those promoted by the Global Compact and the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,[18] invites the private sector to take into account not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of its undertakings, and underlines the importance of the International Labour Organization Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy;

International cooperation

19. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries, including the least developed countries, in strengthening their human, institutional and technological capacity;

20. *Underlines* that South-South cooperation is an important element of international cooperation for development as a complement to, not a substitute for, North-South cooperation, recognizes its increased importance, different history and particularities, and stresses that it should be seen as an expression of solidarity among peoples and countries of the South, based on their shared experiences and objectives, and that it should continue to be guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty, national ownership and independence, equality, non-conditionality, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual benefit;

21. *Emphasizes* that international public finance plays an important role in complementing the efforts of countries to mobilize public resources domestically, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources, and that an important use of international public finance, including official development assistance (ODA), is to catalyse the mobilization of additional resources from other public and private sources, and notes that ODA providers have reaffirmed their respective commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA/GNI) to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries;

22. *Welcomes* the increase in the volume of ODA since the adoption of the Monterrey Consensus, expresses its concern that many countries still fall short of their ODA commitments, reiterates that the fulfilment of all ODA commitments remains crucial, commends those few countries that have met or surpassed their commitment to 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries, urges all other countries to step up efforts to increase their ODA and to make additional concrete efforts towards the ODA targets, welcomes the decision by the European Union reaffirming its collective commitment to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI within the time frame of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and undertaking to meet

[18] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

collectively the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries in the short term and to reach 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries within the time frame of the 2030 Agenda, and encourages ODA providers to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries;

23. *Stresses* the essential role that ODA plays in complementing, leveraging and sustaining financing for development efforts in developing countries and in facilitating the achievement of development objectives, including the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals, and welcomes steps to improve the effectiveness and quality of aid based on the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization, managing for results and mutual accountability;

24. *Welcomes* the contribution to the mobilization of resources for social development by the initiatives taken on a voluntary basis by groups of Member States based on innovative financing mechanisms, including those that aim to provide further access to drugs at affordable prices to developing countries on a sustainable and predictable basis, such as the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID, as well as other initiatives such as the International Finance Facility for Immunization and the Advance Market Commitment for Vaccines;

25. *Encourages* Governments to support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all;

26. *Stresses* that the international community shall enhance its efforts to create an enabling environment for social development and poverty eradication through increasing market access for developing countries, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, financial aid and a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem;

27. *Reaffirms* that each country has the primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and underlines the importance of adopting effective measures, including new financial mechanisms, as appropriate, to support the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth, sustainable development, poverty eradication and the strengthening of their democratic systems;

28. *Stresses* that the international community should support national commitments to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions with the goal to ensure that no one is left behind, and recognizes the need for greater international cooperation to further reduce inequality between and within countries and increase capacity-building support to countries with the most constrained resources to ensure that social expenditures meet certain targets;

29. *Reconfirms* the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and recognizes the need to take steps to significantly increase investment to close resource gaps, including through the mobilization of financial resources from all sources, including public, private, domestic and international resource mobilization and allocation;

30. *Reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development, as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, in promoting the integrated treatment of social development issues in the United Nations system, shall review, on

a periodic basis, issues related to the follow-up to and implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action, in a manner consistent with the functions and contributions of the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and shall advise the Council thereon;

31. *Also reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development continues to have the primary responsibility for the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,[2] and that it serves as the main United Nations forum for an intensified global dialogue on social development issues, and calls upon Member States, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society to enhance their support for its work;

32. *Further reaffirms* the mandate of the Commission for Social Development and that social development is a cross-cutting element in discussions surrounding the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and calls upon Member States, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, civil society and relevant stakeholders to enhance their support for the high-level political forum on sustainable development as it builds upon the work of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, including the Commission, while reflecting the integrated nature of the Sustainable Development Goals as well as the interlinkages between them;

33. *Reaffirms* the commitments made in respect of meeting the special needs of Africa at the 2005 World Summit,[19] underlines the call of the Economic and Social Council for enhanced coordination within the United Nations system and the ongoing efforts to harmonize the current initiatives on Africa, in line with the African Union's Agenda 2063, and requests the Commission for Social Development to continue to give due prominence in its work to the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

34. *Requests* the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies to continue to support national efforts of Member States to achieve inclusive social development in a coherent and coordinated manner; to mainstream the goal of full and productive employment and decent work for all into their policies, programmes and activities, as well as to support efforts of Member States aimed at achieving this objective, and invites financial institutions to support efforts in this regard;

35. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the regional commissions, the relevant specialized agencies, the funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to continue to integrate into their work programmes and give priority attention to the Copenhagen commitments and the Declaration on the tenth anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development,[20] to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up and to monitor the achievement of those commitments and undertakings;

36. *Calls upon* the Commission for Social Development to continue to address inequality in all its dimensions, in the context of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action, as well as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and invites the Commission to emphasize the increased exchange of national, regional and international experiences,

[19] Resolution 60/1, para. 68.

[20] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 6* (E/2005/26), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/234.

the focused and interactive dialogues among experts and practitioners and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned;

37. *Looks forward* to the convening by the President of the General Assembly of the high-level thematic debate on the issue of inclusive development and inequality within and among countries before the meeting of the high-level political forum in 2019;

38. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Social development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", with particular focus on strengthening international cooperation for social development, with particular attention to universal and equitable access to education and health care, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the question to the Assembly at that session.

Draft resolution III
Inclusive development for and with persons with disabilities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 71/165 of 19 December 2016 and its previous relevant resolutions, including those on all relevant internationally agreed development goals, as well as relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council and of the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions, and stressing the need for their full application and implementation for persons with disabilities,

Reaffirming the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[1] which it adopted on 13 December 2006 and which entered into force on 3 May 2008, a landmark convention affirming the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, recognizing that it is both a human rights and a development instrument, encouraging its ratification by Member States and its implementation by States parties, and taking note of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[2]

Reaffirming also the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[3] which is inclusive of persons with disabilities and in which Member States pledged to leave no one behind, and acknowledging that Member States, while implementing the 2030 Agenda, should, inter alia, respect, protect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without discrimination of any kind,

Recalling all development and operational frameworks in which persons with disabilities are recognized as both development agents and beneficiaries in all aspects of development,

Recalling also the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[4] the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[5] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[6] the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,[7] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[8] the outcome document of the 2016 high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly on HIV and AIDS, entitled "Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast Track to Accelerating the Fight against HIV and to Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030",[9] the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples,[10] the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action, launched during the first World Humanitarian Summit, and the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III),[11]

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.
[2] Ibid., vol. 2518, No. 44910.
[3] Resolution 70/1.
[4] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.
[5] Resolution 65/1.
[6] Resolution 66/288, annex.
[7] Resolution 69/283, annex II.
[8] Resolution 69/313, annex.
[9] Resolution 70/266, annex.
[10] Resolution 69/2.
[11] Resolution 71/256, annex.

which contain references to the rights, participation, perspectives and well-being of persons with disabilities in development efforts,

Recalling further the outcome document of its high-level meeting on the overarching theme on "The way forward: a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond"[12] held on 23 September 2013 at the level of Heads of State and Government,

Noting that the Commission for Social Development decided to review, beginning at its fifty-seventh session, the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons[13] and the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities[14] by proceeding to the review of the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities: the way forward, a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond,[15]

Reaffirming the follow-up and review of progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals by the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the inclusion of persons with disabilities as stakeholders in its work, as set out in resolution 67/290 of 9 July 2013,

Noting the panel discussion organized by the President of the General Assembly held on 13 June 2016 to follow up on the status of and progress made towards the realization of the development goals for persons with disabilities in relation to the follow-up to the outcome of the high-level meeting on disability and development and to the principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,

Taking note of the preparation of the United Nations 2018 flagship report on disability and development: realization of Sustainable Development Goals by, for and with persons with disabilities, and of the note by the Secretariat which provides an overview of the flagship report,[16]

Recognizing that persons with disabilities make up an estimated 15 per cent of the world's population, or 1 billion people, of whom an estimated 80 per cent live in developing countries, and that persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected by poverty,

Acknowledging the Secretary-General's decision to conduct an institutional review of the current United Nations approach to mainstreaming disability across its operations, which would inform the preparation of an internal policy and action plan to strengthen the ability of the United Nations system to mainstream disabilities, in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Gravely concerned that persons with disabilities, including women, children, youth, persons with albinism, indigenous peoples and older persons, continue to be subject to multiple, aggravated and intersecting forms of discrimination, and noting that, while progress has already been made by Governments, the international community and the United Nations system in mainstreaming disability, in particular the rights of persons with disabilities, as an integral part of the development agenda, major challenges remain,

[12] Resolution 68/3.
[13] A/37/351/Add.1 and A/37/351/Add.1/Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).
[14] Resolution 48/96, annex.
[15] Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/3.
[16] A/73/220.

Concerned that women and girls with disabilities are often among the most vulnerable and marginalized in society and are at a greater risk of experiencing all forms of violence, and recognizing the need for national development strategies and efforts to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls with disabilities, the elimination of all forms of violence and the realization of their human rights,

Recognizing that persons with disabilities are often disproportionately affected in situations of risk, including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and the occurrence of natural disasters and in their aftermath, and that they may require specific protection and safety measures, recognizing also the need to support further participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities in the development of such measures and decision-making processes relating thereto, in order to ensure disability-inclusive risk reduction and humanitarian action, and recognizing further the special coping mechanisms developed by persons with disabilities to withstand the effects of conflict and natural disasters,

Recognizing also the contribution of families towards ensuring the full enjoyment by persons with disabilities of all human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with others, and that persons with disabilities and their families should receive social protection and assistance to enable the family and its members to contribute towards the full and equal enjoyment of the rights of persons with disabilities and to ensure a safe and supportive family environment for persons with disabilities,

Recognizing further the collective responsibility of Governments to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality, non-discrimination and equity at the global level, and in this sense stressing the duty of Member States to achieve the full application and implementation of the international normative framework on persons with disabilities and human rights and development,

Concerned that access to health-care services remains a challenge for persons with disabilities, who are more than three times as likely as persons without disabilities to be unable to get health care when they need it, owing to, inter alia, a lack of financial resources and inaccessible public transport and facilities,

Recognizing that eliminating discrimination, ensuring equal access to social protection floors and safety nets and enhancing responsive support and services to persons with disabilities are critical to promoting inclusive development for all,

Recognizing also that, while considerable progress has been made, the mainstreaming of disabilities, including the rights of persons with disabilities, remains a global challenge, and recognizing that further efforts are needed to strengthen the normative and operational links to effectively integrate the rights, participation, perspectives and needs of persons with disabilities in development policies and programmes, and, in particular, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Noting the need for Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders to further strengthen the normative framework on disability, including the rights of persons with disabilities, in line with the pledge of "leaving no one behind" of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to consider disability as a global issue, cutting across the pillars of the United Nations,

Stressing its resolve to build inclusive societies and, in this regard, the importance of mainstreaming the rights, participation, perspectives, needs and well-being of persons with disabilities into all relevant strategies and programmes for sustainable development, and reaffirming the valued existing and potential

contributions made by persons with disabilities to the overall well-being and diversity of their communities,

Recognizing the rights of persons with disabilities with respect to full, meaningful and effective participation and inclusion in society, and therefore recognizing also that persons with disabilities should have the opportunity to be actively involved in all aspects of public, political, economic, cultural, social and family life, on an equal basis with all others, including in decision-making processes about policies and programmes, including national and international development programmes, with a view to ensuring that such policies and programmes are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities,

Underlining the need for urgent action by all stakeholders towards the adoption and implementation of more ambitious disability-inclusive national development plans, strategies and actions, backed by increased international cooperation and support,

Stressing the need for capacity development efforts aimed at empowering persons with disabilities and their representative organizations to ensure equal access to quality education, full and productive employment and decent work on an equal basis and without discrimination to persons with disabilities, including by promoting access to inclusive education systems, skills development, volunteering opportunities and vocational and entrepreneurial training in order to enable persons with disabilities to attain and maintain maximum independence,

Recognizing the importance of promoting accessibility, mobility and road safety for persons with disabilities in the context of cities and other human settlements, and that accessibility is a means of achieving inclusive society and development,

Recognizing also the growing contribution of sport to the realization of development and peace, and stressing that major international sporting events, such as the international Paralympic Games, should be organized in the spirit of peace, mutual understanding, friendship and tolerance, where persons with disabilities have an opportunity to organize, develop and participate in disability-specific sporting and recreational activities, on an equal basis with others, and where the spirit of fair play prevails, violence is banned and ethical principles are upheld,

Concerned that the continuing lack of reliable statistics, data and information on the situation of persons with disabilities at the national, regional and global levels contributes to their exclusion in official statistics, presents an obstacle to achieving development planning and implementation that is inclusive of persons with disabilities, recognizing that high-quality, timely, accessible, reliable and disaggregated data are critical to measuring progress and ensuring that no one is left behind, and further noting the need for enhancing capacity-building support to developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of such data,

Stressing the importance of collecting and analysing reliable data on persons with disabilities following existing guidelines on disability statistics,[17] and their updates, encouraging ongoing efforts to improve data collection in order to disaggregate data with regard to persons with disabilities by sex, age and disability and underlining the need for internationally comparable data, such as but not limited to the United Nations Children's Fund Module on Child Functioning and the tools

[17] Such as the *Guidelines and Principles for the Development of Disability Statistics* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.XVII.15) and the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.XVII.8).

and materials produced by the Washington Group, to assess progress on development policies that are inclusive of persons with disabilities,

Concerned that the lack of high-quality data required to provide viable baselines and measure progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals for persons with disabilities poses a significant challenge to effectively monitor the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for persons with disabilities, and in this regard welcoming the call for the disaggregation of data by disability in the 2030 Agenda, which recognizes the need to significantly increase the availability of high-quality, accessible, timely and reliable data to measure progress in the implementation of the Goals for persons with disabilities,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Inclusive development for persons with disabilities" on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 71/165 of 19 December 2016 and 68/3 of 23 September 2013;[18]

2. *Expresses appreciation* to Member States and United Nations entities that have submitted information on progress made towards the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including on specific priorities for action, and data and analysis on persons with disabilities, and urges Member States and relevant United Nations entities to submit information for inclusion in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

3. *Recalls* Human Rights Council resolution 26/20 of 27 June 2014,[19] in which the Council established the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, which included making concrete recommendations on how to better promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities, how to promote development that is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities and how to promote their role as both agents for and beneficiaries of development;

4. *Welcomes* the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and recognizes that their participation is integral to the full and inclusive implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

5. *Expresses appreciation* to Member States and United Nations entities that have drafted strategies outlining their way forward in implementing and monitoring implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development or are in the process of doing so, and encourages States, with the support of relevant stakeholders, to encourage the participation of persons with disabilities in the design and implementation of these strategies and ensure that the strategies are inclusive of persons with disabilities and respect, protect and promote their rights, bearing in mind the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;[2]

6. *Urges* Member States, United Nations agencies, international and regional organizations, regional integration organizations and financial institutions to make a concerted effort to include persons with disabilities and to integrate the principles of non-discrimination, accessibility and inclusion into the monitoring and evaluation of the sustainable development goals;

7. *Urges* Member States, United Nations agencies and other stakeholders, in cooperation with women and girls with disabilities, including through their representative organizations, to design and implement policies and programmes to fulfil the rights of women and girls with disabilities, and to ensure that the

[18] A/73/211/Rev.1.

[19] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. V, sect. A.

implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is inclusive of and accessible to women and girls with disabilities;

8. *Also urges* Member States, United Nations agencies and other stakeholders, in cooperation with persons with disabilities, including through their representative organizations, to design and implement policies and programmes to fulfil the rights of persons with disabilities, including through developing, reviewing and implementing inclusive policies to address the historical, structural and underlying causes and risk factors of violence against persons with disabilities, in particular women and girls with disabilities, and to ensure that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

9. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders to support cooperation and to further improve coordination among existing international processes and instruments in order to advance a disability-inclusive global agenda, and to facilitate cross-learning and the sharing of information, practices, tools and resources that are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

10. *Reaffirms* that social integration and economic policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, education for all and health-care services, including for mental health, eliminate discrimination, increase the participation and integration of social groups, particularly persons with disabilities, and address the challenges posed to social development by globalization and market-driven reforms in order for all people in all countries to benefit from globalization;

11. *Affirms* that persons with disabilities, including children, have the right to [illegible] affordable education and lifelong learning opportunities on the basis of equal opportunity and non-discrimination, and urges Member States to ensure full access to education and lifelong learning opportunities for persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others by taking appropriate steps through the provision of information in accessible and alternative communication formats, reasonable accommodation and other support, as required;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of mainstreaming the rights, participation, perspectives and needs of persons with disabilities in disaster risk reduction and response, recognizes the need for their inclusion in and contribution to disaster preparedness, emergency response, recovery and the transition from relief to development, as well as the implementation of policies and programmes that are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities, and also recognizes the disproportionate impact of disasters on women and girls with disabilities;

13. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and relevant stakeholders to strengthen ongoing efforts and coordination in the humanitarian, disaster and development spheres towards disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction and humanitarian action so as to strengthen resilience, better mitigate risks and support pathways towards recovery and development, including during humanitarian emergencies, for persons with disabilities, and to establish partnerships and networks in the disaster risk reduction and humanitarian domains;

14. *Urges* Member States to ensure that persons with disabilities and their families, including women and girls, have access to a range of support services, information in accessible formats and education, including on how to prevent, recognize and report instances of exploitation, violence and abuse, as well as how to ensure that persons with disabilities, in particular children, have a safe and supportive family environment;

15. *Encourages* the mobilization of resources on a sustainable basis to mainstream disability, including the rights of persons with disabilities, in development at all levels, and in this regard underlines the need to promote and strengthen international cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, in support of national efforts, including, as appropriate, through the establishment of national mechanisms, in particular in developing countries;

16. *Encourages* Member States, United Nations organizations and mechanisms, including the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Disability and Accessibility and the regional commissions to make all efforts to engage with and ensure accessibility for the full and effective participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities, in cooperation with organizations of persons with disabilities and, as appropriate, national human rights institutions, in development processes and decision-making at the local, national, regional and international levels;

17. *Encourages* the Commission on Social Development, within its mandate, to continue to provide its relevant inputs regarding persons with disabilities to the Economic and Social Council and to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, as appropriate, in order to support the relevant discussions on persons with disabilities in the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

18. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to adopt a national disability strategy that can be operationalized, including through measurable and appropriate targets and indicators, and that assigns responsibility to and incorporates the views of a broad range of stakeholders, including persons with disabilities and their representative organizations;

19. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant regional organizations and United Nations bodies and agencies to take into account the rights, participation, perspectives and needs of persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others in ensuring that all development policies and programmes, including those regarding poverty eradication, discrimination and the elimination of all forms of violence and abuse for women and girls with disabilities, social protection, full and productive employment and decent work, and appropriate measures for financial inclusion, as well as urban and rural planning and accessible community and housing development, including the objectives and principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Goals of the 2030 Agenda, are translated into concrete actions;

20. *Encourages* Member States, international development institutions and other stakeholders, including those in the private sector, to promote accessibility, including through the application of universal design in all aspects of urban and rural development, including the planning, design and construction of physical and virtual environments, public spaces, transportation and public services, as well as to promote access to information and communication, including information and communications technologies and systems, to ensure that accessibility is promoted to achieve inclusive societies and development;

21. *Encourages* Member States to eliminate barriers faced by persons with disabilities in accessing water, sanitation and hygiene, including physical, institutional, social and attitudinal barriers, and recognizing that assistive technologies help in making water, sanitation and hygiene accessible;

22. *Urges* Member States to strive to ensure that persons with disabilities have access to rehabilitation and other independent living services and assistive technologies to enable them to maximize their well-being and realize their independence and full participation in society;

23. *Urges* Member States and regional and local governments to promote appropriate measures in cities and other human settlements that facilitate the access of persons with disabilities, on an equal basis with others, to the physical environment of cities, in particular to public spaces, public transport, housing, workplaces, water and sanitation, education and health facilities, public information and communication (including information and communications technologies and systems) and other facilities and services open or provided to the public in both rural and urban areas to reduce the inequalities and expedite inclusive and sustainable development for persons with disabilities;

24. *Urges* Member States, at the local, regional and national levels, to improve road safety for persons with disabilities and to integrate road safety into sustainable mobility and transport infrastructure planning and design in cities and other human settlements;

25. *Stresses* the importance of enabling persons with disabilities to participate on an equal basis with others in recreational, leisure and sporting activities and of promoting sports for athletes with disabilities, without discrimination of any kind;

26. *Welcomes* the contributions made to the trust fund for the United Nations Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and in this regard encourages Member States and other stakeholders to support its objectives, including by providing voluntary contributions;

27. *Requests* the United Nations system to facilitate technical assistance, within existing resources, including the provision of assistance for capacity-building and for the collection and compilation of national data and statistics on persons with disabilities, in particular to developing countries, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with existing international guidelines on disability statistics, to analyse, publish and disseminate disability data and statistics in future periodic reports, as appropriate, on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities;

28. *Encourages* the Statistical Commission, within existing resources, to update guidelines for the collection and analysis of data on persons with disabilities, taking into consideration relevant recommendations of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, and also encourages the United Nations system, including the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, within the scope of her mandate, to strengthen coherence and coordination across the United Nations system in order to promote the availability of internationally comparable data on the situation of persons with disabilities and to regularly include relevant data on disability or relevant qualitative facts, as appropriate, in relevant United Nations publications in the field of economic and social development;

29. *Encourages* Member States to take appropriate steps to expedite the mainstreaming of data on disability into official statistics, including by collecting data disaggregated by sex, age and disability status using appropriate measurement tools, including, as appropriate, the UNICEF Module on Child Functioning and the tools produced by the Washington Group, by examining underlying concepts, purposes and advantages of existing relevant data collection tools and instruments and urging all relevant stakeholders to work with the United Nations to provide urgently needed baseline data for monitoring progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals for persons with disabilities, to strengthen national capacities in that regard and to enhance capacity-building support for developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States;

30. *Takes note* of the multi-stakeholder panel discussion entitled "Towards inclusive, resilient and sustainable development: an evidence-based approach to the mainstreaming of disability in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the 2030 Agenda", held on 31 January 2018 during the fifty-sixth session of the Commission for Social Development, and recognizes the importance of undertaking similar discussions and related initiatives in the future and the continued inclusion of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in the meetings of the Commission for Social Development;

31. *Decides* to change the title of sub-item (b) under social development on the agenda of the General Assembly to read: "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, persons with disabilities and the family";

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in coordination with all relevant United Nations entities, to submit information to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution and of the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities,[4] and to make appropriate recommendations to further strengthen implementation;

33. *Welcomes* the launch by the Secretary-General of the 2018 United Nations flagship report on disability and development on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities in 2018, and, recognizing that high-quality, timely, accessible, reliable and disaggregated data are critical to measuring progress and ensuring that no one is left behind, requests that data collection and analysis continue with a view to informing policymaking, and decides to discuss, at its seventy-fifth session, how best to present these data and findings, including through a flagship report;

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the relevant offices in the United Nations system, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and other relevant offices, have adequate human and financial resources for the fulfilment of their tasks with respect to their work in mainstreaming the rights, participation, perspectives, needs and well-being of persons with disabilities into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in ensuring the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the decision-making processes that impact them.

Draft resolution IV
Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration[1] and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing,[2] its resolution 58/134 of 22 December 2003, in which it took note, inter alia, of the road map for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and its resolutions 60/135 of 16 December 2005, 61/142 of 19 December 2006, 62/130 of 18 December 2007, 63/151 of 18 December 2008, 64/132 of 18 December 2009, 65/182 of 21 December 2010, 66/127 of 19 December 2011, 67/139 and 67/143 of 20 December 2012, 68/134 of 18 December 2013, 69/146 of 18 December 2014, 70/164 of 17 December 2015, 71/164 of 19 December 2016 and 72/144 of 19 December 2017,

Recognizing that, in many parts of the world, awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action remains limited or non-existent, which limits the scope of implementation efforts,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[3]

Recalling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[4] and stressing the need to ensure that issues of relevance to older persons are taken into account in its implementation in order to ensure that no one is left behind, including older persons,

Noting the recent regional developments on the protection and promotion of the human rights of older persons, including the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa,

Noting also that, between 2017 and 2030, the number of persons aged 60 years or over is projected to grow by 46 per cent, from 962 million to 1.4 billion, globally outnumbering youth, as well as children under the age of 10,[5] and that this increase will be the greatest and the most rapid in the developing world, and recognizing that greater attention needs to be paid to the specific challenges affecting older persons, including in the field of human rights,

Recalling World Health Assembly resolutions on ageing, specifically resolution 58.16 of 25 May 2005 on strengthening active and healthy ageing,[6] which stressed the important role of public health policies and programmes in enabling the rapidly growing number of older persons to remain in good health and maintain their many vital contributions to the well-being of their families, communities and societies, resolution 65.3 of 25 May 2012 on strengthening non-communicable disease policies to promote active ageing,[7] which recognized that population ageing is among the major factors contributing to the rising incidence and prevalence of non-communicable diseases and noted the importance of lifelong health-promotion and disease-prevention activities, and resolution 69.3 of 29 May 2016, entitled

[1] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.
[2] Ibid., annex II.
[3] A/73/213.
[4] Resolution 70/1.
[5] United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Population Prospects: 2017 Revision*.
[6] See World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1.
[7] See World Health Organization, document WHA65/2012/REC/1.

"Global strategy and action plan on ageing and health 2016–2020: towards a world in which everyone can live a long and healthy life",[3]

Acknowledging that many developing countries and countries with economies in transition are confronting a double burden of fighting emerging and re-emerging communicable diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, in parallel with the increasing threat of non-communicable diseases, and expressing concern about the impact on older persons,

Concerned that many health systems are not sufficiently prepared to respond to the needs of the rapidly ageing population, including the need for preventive, curative, palliative and specialized care,

Deeply concerned that the situation of older persons in many parts of the world has been negatively affected by the world financial and economic crisis, and noting with concern the high incidence of poverty among them, particularly older single women,

Recognizing the essential contribution that older persons can continue to make to the functioning of societies and towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and recognizing also the importance of the full and effective enjoyment of their human rights,

Concerned about the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination that may create additional vulnerabilities for older persons and affect their enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and noting that older women often face multiple forms of discrimination resulting from gender inequality,

Recognizing that the prevalence of disability increases with age and that many older persons live with a disability,

Recognizing also that the social exclusion of older persons is a complex process involving the lack or denial of resources, rights, goods and services as people age, and the inability of older persons to participate in societal relationships and activities, available to the majority of people across the varied and multiple domains of society, and that it affects both the quality of life of older persons and the equity and cohesion of an ageing society as a whole, with considerable implications for the enjoyment by older persons of their human rights,

Acknowledging the importance of exploring ways to increase the visibility of and attention to the specific challenges faced by older persons in the global development policy framework, including identifying possible gaps and how best to address them,

Recognizing the successful conclusion of the third review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action and the results achieved at the international, regional and national levels, and acknowledging in that regard the recommendations of the Commission for Social Development at its fifty-sixth session, as endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2018/6 of 17 April 2018,

1. *Reaffirms* the Political Declaration[1] and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;[2]

2. *Calls upon* all States and the international community to cooperate, support and participate in the global efforts towards an age-inclusive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[4] and to mobilize all necessary resources and support in that regard, according to national plans and strategies, including through an integrated and multifaceted approach to improving the

[3] See World Health Organization, document WHA69/2016/REC/1.

well-being of older persons, and in this regard encourages Member States to seize this opportunity to take into account issues of relevance to older persons in their efforts to promote the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals;

3. *Recognizes* that the major challenges faced by older persons undermine their social, economic and cultural participation;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to take effective measures against ageism and to view older persons as active contributors to society and not as passive receivers of care and assistance and an impending burden on welfare systems and economies, while promoting and protecting their human rights;

5. *Recognizes* the challenges related to the enjoyment of all human rights that older persons face in different areas and that those challenges require in-depth analysis and action to address protection gaps, and calls upon all States to promote and ensure the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for older persons, including by progressively taking measures to combat age discrimination, neglect, abuse and violence, as well as social isolation and loneliness, to provide social protection, access to food and housing, health-care services, employment, legal capacity and access to justice and to address issues related to social integration and gender inequality by mainstreaming the rights of older persons in sustainable development strategies, in urban policies and in poverty reduction strategies, bearing in mind the crucial importance of intergenerational solidarity for social development;

6. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, and stresses the importance of close coordination between the work of the Independent Expert and the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing established by the General Assembly in paragraph 28 of its resolution 65/182, while avoiding unnecessary duplication of their respective mandates and those of other special procedures and subsidiary organs of the Human Rights Council, and relevant United Nations bodies and treaty bodies;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Independent Expert issued at the thirty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council,[9] and encourages Member States to be mindful of the recommendations contained therein;

8. *Invites* Member States to continue to share their national experiences in developing and implementing policies and programmes aimed at strengthening the promotion and protection of the human rights of older persons, including within the framework of the Open-ended Working Group;

9. *Encourages* Governments to actively address, through national, regional and international efforts, issues that affect older persons and to ensure that the social integration of older persons and the promotion and protection of their rights form an integral part of development policies at all levels;

10. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and implement non-discriminatory policies, legislation and regulations, to systematically review and amend these, where appropriate, if they discriminate against older persons, especially on the basis of age, and to take appropriate measures to prevent discrimination against older persons in, inter alia, employment, social protection and the provision of social, health-care and long-term care services;

11. *Calls upon* Member States to promote, in accordance with their national priorities, equitable and affordable access to sustainable basic physical and social infrastructure for all, without discrimination, including affordable serviced land, housing, modern and renewable energy, safe drinking water and sanitation, safe,

[9] A/HRC/39/50.

nutritious and adequate food, waste disposal, sustainable mobility, health-care services and family planning, education, culture and information and communications technologies, and to ensure that these services are responsive to the rights and needs of older persons, while recognizing that planning for and providing opportunities for making cities inclusive of older persons' economic and social participation is an important dimension of the construction of sustainable cities;

12. *Encourages* Member States to take into account the multidimensional nature of the vulnerability of older persons to poverty and economic insecurity, including through the promotion of good health, care and well-being, in their implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals at the national level;

13. *Encourages* Governments to pay greater attention to building capacity to eradicate poverty among older persons, in particular older women and older persons with disabilities, by mainstreaming ageing issues into poverty eradication measures, women's empowerment strategies and national development plans, and to include both ageing-specific policies and ageing-mainstreaming efforts in their national strategies;

14. *Encourages* Member States to consider expanding, in accordance with domestic legislation and policies, the reach of sustainable pension schemes, including, but not limited to, strategies such as social pensions, and increasing their benefits, with a view to ensuring income security in old age;

15. *Also encourages* Member States to develop and implement long-term care strategies and to conduct research on good practices of care strategies, recognizing and supporting both paid and unpaid care work for the benefit of older persons, in accordance with the World Health Organization global strategy and action plan on ageing and health 2016–2020,[8] and to further promote long-term care as a positive social and economic investment and a source of employment expansion;

16. *Further encourages* Member States to promote terms and conditions of care work guided by International Labour Organization standards for all care workers, including but not limited to migrants, and to adopt measures to tackle the gender and age stereotypes for care work;

17. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts to develop national capacities to address their national implementation priorities identified during the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action by considering and devising strategies that take into account the entirety of the human life course and foster intergenerational solidarity, the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, research, data collection and analysis and the training of necessary personnel in the field of ageing;

18. *Recommends* that Member States increase efforts to raise awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action and identify key priority areas for its implementation, including empowering older persons and promoting their rights, bearing in mind the crucial importance of intergenerational family interdependence, solidarity and reciprocity for social development, raising awareness of ageing issues and building national capacities, as well as promoting and supporting initiatives to advance a positive public image of older persons and their multiple contributions to their families, communities and societies and working with the regional commissions, as needed, and enlisting the help of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in seeking increased attention for ageing issues;

19. *Encourages* Governments that have not done so to designate focal points for handling the follow-up of national plans of action on ageing, and also encourages Governments to strengthen existing networks of national focal points on ageing;

20. *Invites* Governments to conduct their ageing-related policies through inclusive and participatory consultations with relevant stakeholders and social development partners, in the interest of developing effective policies that create national policy ownership and consensus-building;

21. *Recommends* that Governments be inclusive in involving older persons and their organizations in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of policies and programmes that affect them, including through simple consultative mechanisms to co-research or co-design such policies and programmes with or by older persons and to take due account of involving those who experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and are particularly vulnerable to high incidences of poverty and social exclusion;

22. *Recommends* that Member States enhance their capacity to more effectively collect age-disaggregated data, statistics and qualitative information, disaggregated also, when necessary, by other relevant factors, including sex and disability, in order to improve assessment of the situation of older persons, recognizes that the data revolution presents new opportunities and challenges for the use of new data to help with the measurement of progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular its aspects of relevance to older persons, and to ensure that no one is left behind, and in this regard welcomes the establishment by the Statistical Commission of the Titchfield Group on ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data and the consideration of its work;

23. *Encourages* States parties to existing international human rights instruments, where appropriate, to address the situation of older persons more explicitly in their reports, and encourages treaty body monitoring mechanisms and special procedures mandate holders to pay due regard to the situation of older persons in their dialogue with Member States, particularly in their concluding observations and reports, respectively;

24. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening intergenerational partnerships and solidarity, and in this regard calls upon Member States to promote opportunities for voluntary, constructive and regular interaction between young people and older generations in the family, the workplace and society at large;

25. *Encourages* Member States to adopt social policies that promote the development of community services for older persons, taking into account the psychological and physical aspects of ageing and the special needs of older women and older persons with disabilities;

26. *Also encourages* Member States to ensure that older persons have access to information about their rights so as to enable them to participate fully and justly in their societies and to claim full enjoyment of all human rights;

27. *Calls upon* Member States to develop their national capacity for monitoring and enforcing the rights of older persons, in consultation with all sectors of society, including organizations of older persons, through, inter alia, national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, where applicable;

28. *Also calls upon* Member States to strengthen and incorporate a gender and disability perspective into all policy actions on ageing, as well as to address and eliminate discrimination on the basis of age, sex or disability, and recommends that Member States engage with all sectors of society, in particular with relevant organizations with an interest in the matter, including organizations of older persons, women and persons with disabilities, in changing negative stereotypes about older persons, in particular older women and older persons with disabilities, and promote positive images of older persons;

29. *Acknowledges* that universal health coverage implies that all people, including older persons, have access, without discrimination, to every country's determined sets of needed promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative basic health services and essential, safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines, while ensuring that the use of such services does not expose older persons to financial hardship, with a special emphasis on the poor, vulnerable and marginalized;

30. *Urges* Member States to develop, implement and evaluate policies and programmes that promote healthy and active ageing and the highest attainable standard of health and well-being for older persons and to develop health care for older persons as part of primary care in the existing health systems;

31. *Recognizes* the importance of training, education and capacity-building of the health workforce, including paid care workers and unpaid caregivers, for home-based care;

32. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that the principle of non-discrimination on the basis of age is incorporated and upheld in health and other policies and programmes and that the implementation of such policies and programmes is regularly monitored;

33. *Urges* Member States to strengthen intersectoral policy frameworks and institutional mechanisms, as appropriate, for the integrated management of the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, including health promotion, health-care services and social welfare services, in order to address the needs of older persons;

34. *Encourages* Member States to provide services and support to older persons, including grandparents, who have assumed responsibility for children who were abandoned or whose parents are deceased, have migrated or are otherwise unable to care for their dependants;

35. *Calls upon* Member States to address the issue of the well-being of and adequate health-care services for older persons, as well as any cases of neglect, abuse and violence against older persons, in particular older women, by designing and implementing more effective prevention strategies and stronger laws and by developing coherent and comprehensive policy frameworks to address these problems and their underlying factors;

36. *Also calls upon* Member States to take concrete measures to further protect and assist older persons in emergency situations, in accordance with the Madrid Plan of Action and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;[10]

37. *Stresses* that, in complementing national development efforts, enhanced international cooperation, in particular North-South cooperation, which is complemented by South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation, is essential to support developing countries in implementing the Madrid Plan of Action, while recognizing the importance of such assistance as well as the provision of financial assistance;

38. *Encourages* Member States to establish or to strengthen strategic approaches and policy options in relation to the physical and mental health of older persons in the light of new and emerging disease patterns, notably non-communicable diseases, as well as in relation to increased life expectancy, with particular attention to promoting good health and addressing health needs across a care continuum, including prevention, detection and diagnosis, management and rehabilitation, treatment and palliative care, with the aim of achieving comprehensive health-care coverage for older persons;

[10] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

39. *Encourages* the international community, including international and bilateral donors, to enhance international cooperation to support national efforts to eradicate poverty, in keeping with internationally agreed goals, in order to achieve sustainable and adequate social and economic support for older persons, while bearing in mind that countries have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development;

40. *Also encourages* the international community to support national efforts to forge stronger partnerships with civil society, including organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations, faith-based organizations, community-based organizations, including caregivers, and the private sector, in an effort to help to build capacity on ageing issues;

41. *Encourages* the international community and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing, as appropriate, in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing and to provide policymakers with more accurate and more specific information with regard to a gender perspective on ageing, as well as to include indicators that provide an evidence base for the equitable delivery and effective monitoring of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, the New Urban Agenda[11] and national policymaking, as well as to gain a better understanding of how to promote ageing in a way that is not adversely affected by rapid urbanization and gentrification;

42. *Recognizes* the important role of various international and regional organizations that deal with training, capacity-building, policy design and monitoring at the national and regional levels in promoting and facilitating the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and acknowledges the work that is undertaken in various parts of the world, through the regional commissions and regional initiatives, as well as the work of institutes such as the International Institute on Ageing in Malta and the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna;

43. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Inter-Agency Group on Ageing, an informal network of interested United Nations entities that exchange information and integrate ageing into their work programmes on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

44. *Requests* the focal point on ageing of the United Nations system, the Programme on Ageing of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, to continue to enhance its collaboration with the focal points of the regional commissions, funds and programmes, and recommends that Member States reaffirm the roles of focal points within the United Nations system, increase technical cooperation efforts, consider expanding the role of the regional commissions on ageing issues and continue to provide resources for those efforts, facilitate the coordination of national and international non-governmental organizations on ageing and enhance cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, to promote ageing issues and develop partnerships in this regard;

45. *Reiterates* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level in order to promote and facilitate further implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, as well as the results of its review and appraisal cycle, and in this regard encourages Governments to support the United Nations trust fund for ageing so as to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

[11] Resolution 71/256, annex.

46. *Requests* the United Nations system to strengthen its capacity to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, national implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, where appropriate;

47. *Requests* relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), to ensure that the situation of older women is mainstreamed and incorporated across their work and to support, in accordance with their respective mandates, the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular its aspects of relevance to older persons, including gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

48. *Invites* relevant entities of the United Nations system, including UN-Women, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Food Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Health Organization, among others, as well as the International Organization for Migration, to include in reports to their respective governing bodies relevant information on efforts made by Member States and the international community on issues of relevance to older persons, including their social inclusion;

49. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing,[12] and recognizes the positive contributions of Member States, as well as relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, including relevant human rights mandate holders and treaty bodies and the regional commissions, as well as national human rights institutions, intergovernmental and relevant non-governmental organizations with an interest in the matter and invited panellists, during the first nine working sessions of the Working Group, and invites Member States, as well as relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders, to continue to make contributions to the work entrusted to the Working Group, as appropriate;

50. *Encourages* Member States to continue to contribute to the work of the Open-ended Working Group, in particular by presenting measures to enhance the promotion and protection of the human rights and dignity of older persons, such as best practices, lessons learned and possible content for a multilateral legal instrument, as appropriate, in order to enable it to fulfil its existing mandate of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons by considering the existing international framework of the human rights of older persons and identifying possible gaps and how best to address them, including by considering, as appropriate, the feasibility of further instruments and measures;

51. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support to the Open-ended Working Group for the organization of its tenth session, of a duration of four days, in April 2019, with the provision of conference services, including interpretation services, and to include the annual sessions of the Working Group in the Organization's calendar of conferences and meetings;

52. *Invites* the Independent Expert to address and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session under the agenda item entitled "Social development";

53. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

[12] A/AC.278/2016/2 and A/AC.278/2017/2.

Draft resolution V
Follow-up to the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997, 54/124 of 17 December 1999, 56/113 of 19 December 2001, 57/164 of 18 December 2002, 58/15 of 3 December 2003, 59/111 of 6 December 2004, 59/147 of 20 December 2004, 60/133 of 16 December 2005, 62/129 of 18 December 2007, 64/133 of 18 December 2009, 66/126 of 19 December 2011, 67/142 of 20 December 2012, 68/136 of 18 December 2013, 69/144 of 18 December 2014, 71/163 of 19 December 2016 and 72/145 of 19 December 2017 concerning the proclamation of, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family and its tenth and twentieth anniversaries,

Recognizing that the preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year in 2014 provided a useful opportunity to continue to raise awareness of the objectives of the International Year for increasing cooperation on family issues at all levels and for undertaking concerted action to strengthen family-centred policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Recognizing also that the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes, especially those relating to family policies in the areas of poverty, work-family balance and intergenerational issues, with attention given to the rights and responsibilities of all family members, can contribute to ending poverty, ending hunger, ensuring a healthy life and promoting well-being for all at all ages, promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, ensuring better education outcomes for children, including early childhood development and education, enabling access to employment opportunities and decent work for parents and caregivers, achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and eliminating all forms of violence, in particular against women and girls, and supporting the overall quality of life of families, including families in vulnerable situations, so that family members can realize their full potential, as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Acknowledging that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their follow-up processes continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Recognizing the continuing efforts of Governments, the United Nations system, regional organizations and civil society, including academic institutions, to fulfil the objectives of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year at the national, regional and international levels,

Acknowledging that the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes have served as catalysts for a number of initiatives at the national and international levels, including many family policies and programmes to reduce poverty and hunger and promote the well-being of all at all ages, and can boost development efforts, contribute to better outcomes for children and help to break the intergenerational transfer of poverty in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1]

[1] Resolution 70/1.

Acknowledging also that strengthening intergenerational relations, through such measures as promoting intergenerational living arrangements and encouraging extended family members to live in close proximity to each other, has been found to promote the autonomy, security and well-being of children and older persons, and that initiatives to promote involved and positive parenting and to support the role of grandparents have been found to be beneficial in advancing social integration and solidarity between generations, as well as in promoting and protecting the human rights of all family members,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[7]

2. *Encourages* Governments to continue their efforts to implement the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes and to develop strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening national capacities to address national priorities relating to family issues and to step up their efforts, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to implement those objectives, in particular in the areas of fighting poverty and hunger and ensuring the well-being of all at all ages;

3. *Invites* Member States to invest in a variety of inclusive family-oriented policies and programmes, which take into account the different needs and expectations of families, as important tools for, inter alia, fighting poverty, social exclusion and inequality, promoting work-family balance and gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and advancing social integration and intergenerational solidarity, to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[1]

4. *Encourages* Member States to continue to enact inclusive and responsive family-oriented policies for poverty reduction in line with the main objectives of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year, to confront family poverty and social exclusion, recognizing the multidimensional aspects of poverty, focusing on inclusive and quality education and lifelong learning for all, health and well-being for all at all ages, full and productive employment, decent work, social security, livelihoods and social cohesion, including through gender- and age-sensitive social protection systems and measures, such as child allowances for parents and pension benefits for older persons, and to ensure that the rights, capabilities and responsibilities of all family members are respected;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to promote work-family balance as conducive to the well-being of children, the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, inter alia, through improved working conditions for workers with family responsibilities, flexible working arrangements, such as telecommuting, and leave arrangements, such as maternity leave and paternity leave, affordable, accessible and good-quality childcare and initiatives to promote the equal sharing of household responsibilities, including unpaid care work, between men and women;

6. *Further encourages* Member States to invest in family policies and programmes that enhance strong intergenerational interactions, such as intergenerational living arrangements, parenting education and support for grandparents, including grandparents who are primary caregivers, in an effort to promote inclusive urbanization, intergenerational solidarity and social cohesion;

7. *Encourages* Member States to consider providing universal and gender-sensitive social protection systems, which are key to ensuring poverty reduction, including, as appropriate, targeted cash transfers for families in vulnerable situations,

[7] A/73/61-E/2018/4.

as can be the case of families headed by a single parent, in particular those headed by women, and which are most effective in reducing poverty when accompanied by other measures, such as providing access to basic services, high-quality education and health-care services;

8. *Encourages* Governments to support the United Nations trust fund on family activities;

9. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen cooperation with civil society, academic institutions and the private sector in the development and implementation of relevant family policies and programmes;

10. *Encourages* further collaboration between the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the United Nations entities, agencies, funds and programmes, as well as other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in the family field, as well as the enhancement of research efforts and awareness-raising activities relating to the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes;

11. *Requests* the focal point on the family of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to enhance collaboration with the regional commissions, funds and programmes, recommends that the roles of focal points within the United Nations system be reaffirmed, and invites Member States to increase technical cooperation efforts, consider enhancing the role of the regional commissions on family issues and continue to provide resources for those efforts, facilitate the coordination of national and international non-governmental organizations on family issues and enhance cooperation with all relevant stakeholders to promote family issues and develop partnerships in this regard;

12. *Calls upon* Member States and agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, in consultation with civil society and other relevant stakeholders, to continue to provide information on their activities, including on good practices at the national, regional and international levels, in support of the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes, to be included in the report of the Secretary-General;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes by Member States and by agencies and bodies of the United Nations system;

14. *Decides* to consider the topic "Implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes" at its seventy-fourth session under the sub-item entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family" of the item entitled "Social development".

Draft resolution VI
Literacy for life: shaping future agendas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/116 of 19 December 2001, by which it proclaimed the 10 year period beginning on 1 January 2003 the United Nations Literacy Decade, its resolution 57/166 of 18 December 2002, in which it welcomed the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade,[1] and its resolutions 59/149 of 20 December 2004, 61/140 of 19 December 2006, 63/154 of 18 December 2008, 65/183 of 21 December 2010, 68/132 of 18 December 2013, 69/141 of 18 December 2014 and 71/166 of 19 December 2016,

Recalling also the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[2] which includes Sustainable Development Goal 4 on ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, with a specific target on ensuring that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy by 2030,

Convinced that literacy is crucial to the acquisition by every child, young person and adult of the essential life skills that will enable them to address the challenges that they may face in life and represents an essential condition of lifelong learning, which is an indispensable means for effective participation in the knowledge societies and economies of the twenty-first century, and to promote inclusive and equitable societies,

Reaffirming the right of indigenous peoples to have non-discriminatory access to all levels and forms of education provided by States, and recognizing the importance of effective measures to promote access for indigenous individuals, in particular children, to education in their own language, whenever possible, as addressed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[3]

Deeply concerned that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 750 million adults, two thirds of whom are women, lack basic literacy skills, that more than 617 million children and adolescents are not achieving minimum proficiency levels in reading and mathematics and that 262 million children, adolescents and youth worldwide (or 1 in 5) are out of school — a figure that has barely changed over the past five years,[4]

Recognizing that literacy is crucial in a lifelong learning perspective as a continuum of different proficiency levels that are developed throughout life and across different life contexts,

Recognizing also that substantial and efficiently spent investments are needed to improve the quality of education in order to enable millions of people to acquire literacy skills for decent work,

Recognizing further that literacy is a foundation for lifelong learning, a building block for achieving human rights and fundamental freedoms and a driver of sustainable development and that the United Nations Literacy Decade (2003–2012) had a catalytic effect as a global framework for sustained and focused efforts for the promotion of literacy and literate environments,

[1] See A/57/218 and A/57/218/Corr.1.
[2] Resolution 70/1.
[3] Resolution 61/295, annex.
[4] See A/71/292.

Recalling the International Conference on Girls' and Women's Literacy and Education: Foundations for Sustainable Development, held in Dhaka and co-hosted by the Government of Bangladesh and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in support of the Global Education First Initiative and on the occasion of International Literacy Day, on 8 September 2014, and taking note with appreciation of the adoption of the Dhaka Declaration,

Affirming that the realization of the right to education, especially for girls, contributes to the promotion of human rights, gender equality, the empowerment of women and the eradication of poverty, as well as to development,

Recognizing the importance of continuing to implement national and subnational programmes and measures to eliminate illiteracy worldwide as reflected in the Dakar Framework for Action, adopted on 28 April 2000 at the World Education Forum,[5] consistent with Goal 4 of the 2030 Agenda, and in this regard recognizing also the important contribution of North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation through, inter alia, innovative pedagogical methods in literacy,

Deeply concerned about the persistence of the gender gap in education, which is reflected by the fact that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, nearly two thirds of the world's non-literate adults are women,

Concerned that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, one third of the children not attending school are children with disabilities and that the literacy rate among adults with disabilities is as low as 3 per cent in some countries,

Deeply concerned about the impact of disrupted educational services in humanitarian emergencies on efforts to promote literacy skills, especially for all children and young people,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Literacy for life: shaping future agendas and education for democracy";[4]

2. *Commends* the efforts made by Member States, their development partners, the international donor community, the private sector, civil society and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the lead organization of the United Nations Literacy Decade, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in promoting enjoyment of the right to education, including by making progress on the five strategic axes of action for the period following the Decade;

3. *Calls upon* Governments to scale up literacy programmes for children, youth and adults, including older persons, with particular attention to those who are vulnerable or marginalized, to foster innovative delivery of literacy services, including through technology and a strengthened institutional network, to promote an intersectoral approach by linking literacy learning with multiple sectors to address diverse learning needs, such as through relevant and inclusive educational resources in different languages, to establish multi-stakeholder partnerships with the active participation of civil society and the private sector, to improve distance and digital learning resources and to develop a data-collection mechanism to assess levels of literacy, so as to encourage the integration of literacy learning into vocational training and health education to promote sustainable development;

[5] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

4. *Encourages* Member States, United Nations organizations, multilateral and bilateral donors, regional organizations, civil society, academia and the private sector to sustain their collective efforts for the promotion of literacy and literate environments and to contribute to shaping the Global Alliance for Literacy within the framework of lifelong learning into an effective platform for synergistic action at the global, regional, national and community levels;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity, and calls upon Member States and other stakeholders to consider implementing the recommendations contained therein;

6. *Urges* international development partners and Governments to ensure that funds mobilized by and channelled through existing international financing mechanisms for education also explicitly target and benefit youth and adult literacy;

7. *Calls upon* States, and invites other relevant stakeholders, to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[2] including all literacy-related Sustainable Development Goals and targets;

8. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as the specialized United Nations agency for education, to continue its mandated role to lead and coordinate the Education 2030 agenda, in particular through the Sustainable Development Goal Education 2030 Steering Committee, as an inclusive global multi-stakeholder consultation and coordination mechanism for education in the 2030 Agenda in accordance with the 2030 Agenda follow-up and review process;

9. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its coordinating and catalysing role through the implementation of the recommendations of the Global Alliance for Literacy and by continuing to provide support to Member States, in collaboration with partners, in enhancing capacities for policy formulation, programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation, as well as sharing information and knowledge on policies, programmes and progress in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal targets connected with literacy, especially target 4.1 on reading skills in primary and lower secondary school (including in indigenous languages) and target 4.6 on youth and adult literacy, and creating synergies of action between the Alliance and other initiatives, including its Global Partnership for Girls' and Women's Education and Global Network of Learning Cities;

10. *Encourages* efforts to provide quality education in safe learning environments for all, especially for boys, girls and youth, in humanitarian emergencies to contribute to a smooth transition from relief to development;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled "Social development", the sub-item entitled "Literacy for life: shaping future agendas".